The subsidy is 50% of the cost of conversion with a ceiling of Rs. 15 lakh per vessels. A scheme has been launched by Marine Product Development Authority also for diversifying small trawlers into monofilament long lining.

(d) and (e)Alarge number of tuna long liners and tuna purse-siners belonging to serveral distant water fishing nations are fishing in Indian ocean for tuna. However, no foreign flag tuna-fishing vessel is permitted to fish within our Exclusive Economic Zone. Indian entrepreneurs have been slow in extending their operation into international waters for harvesting tuna, despite the technology and policy framework having been put in place by the Government.

(f) and (g) Institutional finance, trained manpower and shore-based infrastructure are the main obstacles coming in the way of developing tuna fishing. The Government is permitting drawal of duty free fuel, subsidy for conversion and permission for mid-sea-transshipment of catches to save the entrepreneurs from waiting in the ports. Other operational difficulties as and when brought up by the Industry are addressed by the Inter Ministerial Empowered Committee.

Seeds Developed by Rajendra Agriculture University, Pusa

†3968. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minsiter of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the advanced variety of seeds and their types developed, so far, through research carried out by the Rajendra Agriculture University, Pusa, Samastipur in Bihar for the prosperity and progress of agriculture and related sector;

(b) the results achieved, so far, in the development of agriculture and its related areas after the development of such seeds and their types; and

(c) the maximum potential of agricultural production including foodgrains production in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar has developed high yielding varieties of seeds in several food crops, pulses, oilseeds, vegetable and fruit crops, spices,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

commercial crops etc. to name a few: rice (22), maize (10), wheat (4), pulses such as pigeon pea, moong, green gram, chickpea, lentil (12), oilseeds such as rapeseed, yellow mustard, mustard, groundnut, sesamum (11), small millets such as finger millet, proso millet, barnyard millet (9), tuber crops such as sweet potato, yam bean arui, elephant yam (9), potato (3) spices such as turmeric, fenugreek, coriander (3), mango (7), vegetables such as brinjal, parwal, bottle gourd, sponge gourd, (6), jute (1) and sugarcane (13). These high yielding varieties have contributed towards enhanced productivity per hectare in crops: to name a few such as in foodgrains: (795 kg. in 1970-71 to 1311 kg. in 2005-06); pulses (600 kg. in 1970-71 to 749 kg. in 2005-06) and in oilseeds (458 kg. 1970-71 to 982 kg 2005-06).

(c) The maximum yield potential of crops depends on a number of factors such as growing environments, the quality seed and planting material used, package of practices for crop production and protection and also the post harvest practices applied etc. The agricultural productivity can be augmented by improving irrigation efficiency, enhanced availability of institutional credit, strengthening of technology system, augmenting supply of soruce seed, enhanced flow of technology of farmers, appropriate market infrastructure, value addition, price and other policy support etc.

Procurement of mustard seeds at MSP

3969. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have made any arrangement for procurement of mustard seeds at support price through NAFED, as about more than 25 lakh tonnes of mustard seed produce are expected this year;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed by the Central Government, so far, for the procurement of mustard seeds by cooperating the farmers in distress; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has fixed Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Fair Average Quality of mustard